

List of Claims

1. (currently amended) A backhoe loader comprising:
an arm and bucket located opposite to a backhoe end, and having a first configuration in which a pair of pads are adjacent to and at least partially supporting the arm and bucket, but a bottom of the bucket is mostly above a plane tangent to four tires;

the arm and the bucket having a second configuration in which the bottom of the bucket is in the plane, but the pads are above the plane; and

the pads having a fixed orientation with respect to the bucket in both said first and second configurations.

2. (currently amended) The backhoe loader of claim 1 wherein the pads are include wear pads removeably attached and means for readily attaching and detaching the wear pads to the bucket.

3. (original) The backhoe loader of claim 1 wherein the bucket includes at least one arm connector, and the pads are attached to a rear adjacent opposite sides of the bucket;

the arm connector being on a bucket side of a tangent to the pads when the arm and bucket are in the first configuration.

4. (currently amended) The backhoe loader of claim 1 including a steel plate frame having a bucket attachment side oriented at an acute fixed angle with respect to a stabilizer side; and

the pads each including a wear pad removably attached in a fixed orientation to the stabilizer side with at least one threaded fastener.

5. (original) The backhoe loader of claim 1 wherein an end of the arm is on a bucket side a plane tangent to the pads when the arm and bucket are in the first configuration.

6. (original) The backhoe loader of claim 1 wherein the bucket is in a fully curled position with respect to the arm when the arm and bucket are in the first configuration.

7. (currently amended) A loader bucket for a backhoe loader comprising:
a bottom adjacent a rear;
a pair of pads attached to the rear adjacent opposite sides of the bucket,
and also including at least one a pair of arm connectors;
the pads being above a tangent to the bottom, and have a fixed orientation
and positioning with respect to the bottom; and
the arm connectors being on a bucket side of a tangent to the pads.

8. (currently amended) The loader bucket of claim 7 the wherein each of
the pads are include a wear pads removeably attached to the bucket with at least one
threaded fastener.

9. (currently amended) The loader bucket of claim 7 including a steel plate frame having a bucket attachment side oriented at an acute fixed angle with respect to a stabilizer side; and
the pads each include a wear pad removeably attached in a fixed
orientation to the stabilizer side with at least one threaded fastener.

10. (currently amended) The loader bucket of claim 7 wherein the pads include wear pads that are attached to plates, which are removeably attached to the rear via a means for readily attaching and detaching.

11. (currently amended) A stabilizer pad accessory for attachment to a backhoe loader bucket, the accessory comprising:

a steel plate frame having a bucket attachment side oriented at an acute fixed angle with respect to a stabilizer side; and

a stabilizer wear pad removeably attached to said stabilizer side with at least one threaded fastener.

12. (currently amended) The stabilizer pad accessory of claim 11 including a support plate removeably attached to the steel plate frame on one side with the at least one threaded fastener, and affixed to the wear pad on an opposite side.